



Erickson Educational Foundation

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 5 NO. 3

FALL, 1972

1973 INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

The Third International Symposium on Gender Identity sponsored by the Erickson Educational Foundation will be held September 8-10, 1973, at the Hotel Libertas, Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia.

The theme of the symposium will concern transsexualism and related problems of gender orientation. Professionals who are interested in attending this meeting are invited to write our Baton Rouge office for preliminary registration and further information at an early date. Those who wish to present papers are requested to submit abstracts in English before March 15, 1973.

DESTINATION DUBROVNIK

During his current trip sailing down the Adriatic Dr. Colin Markland of the University of Minnesota Transsexual Research Project team is personally checking on the facilities for the Third International Gender Identity Symposium.

The Hotel Libertas was opened in September 1971, located on the quiet Miramare slope, facing the open sea, the old walled city of Dubrovnik and the island of Lokrum. The brochure illustrations and text are alluring. All accommodations have private sunbathing terraces and flower gardens. The hotel has outdoor and indoor swimming pools and a private beach as well as a sauna and a massage room.

The city of Dubrovnik is a beautiful old historical city. Its medieval fortresses, buildings, etc., are still intact and it is the most popular tourist spot on the southern Adriatic.

HARRY BENJAMIN, M.D. ANNOUNCES

the formation of Harry Benjamin, M.D. Associates, P.C. (a Professional Corporation), with Charles L. Ihlenfeld, M.D., in charge.

Dr. Benjamin, pioneer researcher, practitioner and author of *The Transsexual Phenomenon* (Julian Press, N. Y.) is in retirement except for consultation. We know it is gratifying to him to observe the professional and public progress that his efforts have generated, and in San Francisco this past summer as in New York, he has been continuing his concern and cooperation in current forward steps that are taking place.

FIRST NATIONAL MEETING

A long-needed interdisciplinary meeting concerning work being done in the transsexual field, has been scheduled for February 2-4, 1973, at Stanford University Medical Center. In view of the importance of interchange of information and ideas as well as diagnostic and treatment coordination between medical practitioners and researchers in the field of this problem of gender identification, it is felt that an annual forum of this type might prove feasible.

We wish to commend the Stanford Gender Identity Team for spearheading this conference. In addition to the medical, psychiatric and surgical aspects, there will be workshops to discuss the allied problems of the transsexual—social, vocational, legal and psychological.

Professionals are invited to write for further information concerning attending the meeting to: Donald R. Laub, M.D., Chief, Division of Plastic Surgery, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif. 94305.

IN JAPAN

Translation into Japanese of the information pamphlets on transsexualism published by the Erickson Educational Foundation is nearing completion. This material will appear in a book to be distributed in Japan in the fall, reports Dr. Hideo Anada, professor at Tokyo University Medical College.

This information is all the more encouraging in view of Dr. Anada's presentation at the Second International Symposium on Gender Identity in Copenhagen, September, 1971, when he reported on the complete lack of understanding and professional research and treatment in the area of transsexualism in Japan.

IN CANADA

The establishment of a new organization, the Association for Canadian Transsexuals, is now in process. EEF was invited to participate in the September meeting in Toronto. Further information about the group will appear in the next issue of this Newsletter.

Membership details can be obtained by writing the Association at 58 Cecil Street, Toronto, Ontario.

HONORING JOHN MONEY

At the 15th Annual Conference of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex in Palm Springs, November, 1972, John Money will receive the 1972 Annual Award for Significant Contribution to the Scientific Study of Sex. Dr. Money is President-elect of the Society at this time.

Space is too limited to include the vast scope of his activities, research and writings. A brief account of some of Dr. Money's recent activities will partially illustrate the basis of his international reputation as one of the leading scholars and researchers in human sexuality of our time.

RECENT MEETINGS

In May, Dr. Money attended the Copenhagen meeting organized by Dr. Preben Hertoft, honoring the late Dr. Lorstem Auken, sex education and research pioneer, as an impetus to sex research in Denmark. Dr. Money's papers, "Identification Complementation in the Formation of Gender Identity" and "Phyletic (racial) and Idiosyncratic Determination of Gender Identity," will be published in English in the Danish Medical Journal.

Dr. Money attended the May 29-June 3rd Symposium "Male and Female Roles and Relationship" of the series, *Society's Stress and Deviance*, organized by Dr. Lennard Levi, Director of the Laboratory for Clinical Sex Research, Carolynska Medical Institute, University of Stockholm, sponsored by the World Health Organization and the University of Upsala.

In Bergen, Sweden, Dr. Money discussed problems of gender identity and hermaphroditism at the Department of Pediatrics, University of Bergen. In Hungary he had meetings to discuss problems of neuroendocrinology with Dr. Lajos Koranyi at the University of Pécs and in Budapest with Dr. Elemer Endroczi.

SPREADING THE WORD

It is good to know that the subject of transsexualism is becoming a matter of intramural discussion as seen by the gratifying response from members of the clergy as well as other disciplines about our work. When so little is known and understood on the subject, it is all the more important that it be known where information, if not help, can be obtained.

Suggestions are welcome from our readers as to names and addresses of professionals to educate on this subject. We are always seeking to enlarge our treatment and consultation referral lists as well as our mailing list of individuals to whom our information will be interesting and helpful.

OFF PRESS SOON

. . . The John Money-Anke A. Ehrhardt book, *Man and Woman, Boy and Girl: Differentiation and Dimorphism of Gender Identity from Conception to Maturity* (Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Md. 21218) will be available in November. \$12.50 cloth—\$3.50 paper.

How do men become men, and women, women? Are their differences innate or acquired, the result of prenatal hormonal or postnatal cultural influences? In part assisted by EEF, Drs. Money and Ehrhardt explore the processes of sexual differentiation from a vast spectrum of scientific, medical, psychological and social perspectives.

John Money is Associate Professor of Medical Psychology and of Pediatrics at Johns Hopkins, author of *Sex Errors of the Body* and co-editor with Richard Green of *Transsexualism and Sex Reassignment*. Anke A. Ehrhardt is Assistant Research Professor of Pediatrics and Psychology at the State University of New York, Buffalo.

. . . *Contemporary Sexual Behavior: Critical Issues in the 1970s*, Eds.: Joseph Zubin and John Money, will be published in December (Johns Hopkins Press).

IN TEL AVIV

The First International Symposium on Sex Education took place in Israel in July, attended by about 500 participants. On a special workshop panel, Dr. Marie Mehl presented a paper, "Educational Aspects of Transsexualism." Keen interest was stimulated not only in the subject but in the forthcoming Third International Gender Identity Symposium in 1973 in Dubrovnik.

Dr. Mehl will serve as a member of the International Advisory Committee for the Second International Symposium on Sex Education to be held in Israel in 1974.

This is another forward step in our effort to "educate the educators" in the area of sexual differences and the various aspects of transsexualism.

IN MANHATTAN

Two EEF sponsored presentations on transsexualism were given in July at the invitation of St. Vincent's Hospital Medical Center, Dept. of Psychiatry. The first was within the department. The second program, the Spectrum-schedule Cronin Conference, featured Dr. Charles L. Ihlenfeld, associate of Dr. Harry Benjamin, following the 10-minute documentary film on a postoperative transsexual, "My Name Is Debbie," produced by Jeanne Youngson of Sussex Films.

YOUR HELP NEEDED!

EEF Research and Education Office needs help in gathering all available information on the activity and results of any contacts transsexuals have had or are having with ANY helping agencies, public or private. This would include agencies such as Vocational Rehabilitation, state and city welfare, church agencies, mental health agencies and clinics which you have approached directly for help. We would deeply appreciate receiving the following information:

1. Name and address of agency.
2. Date (approximate) of contact or duration.
3. Help obtained, if any.
4. Reason, if refused.

Please write to: Dr. Marie Mehl, P. O. Box 185, Kendall P. O., Miami, Fla. 33156.

INSURANCE

In our efforts to improve the conditions facing transsexuals in the various aspects of their lives, we are seeking information on any contacts with private insurance companies in connection with applying for, receiving or being refused benefits.

If you have any information to send us along this line, we would appreciate your including:

1. Name and address of insurance company.
2. Name and address of local agent (or employer firm).
3. Type of policy and coverage.
4. Details of claim paid and amount.
5. Details of claim refusal.

Please write to Erickson Educational Foundation, 1627 Moreland Avenue, Baton Rouge, La. 70808.

LEGAL AND LICENSE ACTIONS

It is virtually impossible to get a clear picture of the nationwide status of the transsexual in relation to civil rights without your individual cooperation.

If you are a postoperative transsexual and have obtained any such documents as change of name, new birth certificate, passport, voter registration, marriage license, etc., or as a preoperative obtained professional or occupational license, driver's license, etc., we would like to know the details. We of course understand and respect your desire for anonymity.

Please write to EEF office at 1627 Moreland Avenue, Baton Rouge, La. 70808.

IN BROOKLYN

A seminar on transsexualism was presented in June at the Sunset Park Family Health Center of the Lutheran Medical Center by Dr. Charles L. Ihlenfeld, with Mrs. Naomi Smith of Lincoln Hospital Gender Identity Team and EEF cooperation.

ABOUT VOICE THERAPY

Prof. Wm. F. Meade, director, Speech and Hearing Center, Long Island University, Brooklyn, has reported the following at our request:

"We have been working on voice feminization with transsexuals for the past two years. We have not been able to give our clients completely feminine voices in a noticeably higher pitch, but we have been able to get them to place the voice higher in the mask of the face as opposed to resonating in the chest as they habitually did, and this creates the impression of a higher pitched feminine voice. We work with them on inflection patterns and try to get them to realize that there is a wide range of possibilities in the human voice and that many females have lower pitched voices.

"We also try to stress that in many cases one of the determinants in what voice sounds like depends on what the listener sees, and if the client is dressed as a woman they are generally accepted as such. For this reason we generally prefer that the client be dressed and living as a female for therapy to be effective.

"We work with the clients once a week for 12 weeks and attempt to expand and change the client's attitude toward what makes a voice truly feminine. We make no claims of success and generally try to make the client comfortable with what she has and establish the realization that there is a wide range of female voices and, in the long run, the listener's reaction is determined by what is seen, and this creates an acceptance of what is heard."

IN HARTFORD

For the past several years Canon Clinton R. Jones of Christ Church Cathedral has been counseling and providing referrals for individuals with sexual problems including transsexualism. Canon Jones, author of the recent book, **What About Homosexuality?** (Thomas Nelson, Inc. Youth Forum Series), is blueprinting plans for a seminar on transsexualism in the central Connecticut area. Professionals interested in receiving further information when available are invited to write Canon Jones, 45 Church St., Hartford, Conn. (Plans for this seminar were delayed by the departure of one of the coordinators to another state.)

ATTENTION—FTS

If you are a genetic female contemplating phalloplasty (penis construction), please communicate with EEF Baton Rouge office prior to hysterectomy in regard to important information on new developments in surgical techniques.

PRE-HORMONAL EVALUATION

A new electronic microscopy research project in endocrine and pathological evaluation has been inaugurated by Roberto Granato, M.D., and Myron Tannenbaum, M.D., of the Dept. of Urology, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, N.Y.C.

Anatomically male individuals who have been psychiatrically evaluated to be "true transsexuals" **who have not had any hormone treatment whatsoever** are invited to communicate with our New York office (212) 228-6760 to discuss participation in the project.

IN JACKSONVILLE

The members of the Gender Identity Association, Inc. team of Jacksonville, Fla., recently presented a scientific program at the monthly meeting of the staff physicians of the Methodist Hospital there.

In addition to lecturing on transsexualism before lay groups, Team Chief Dr. Ira Dushoff has been featured speaker at meetings of the Northeast Florida Association of Operation Room Nurses, and presented a paper, "The Organization and Experience of a Private Gender Team," at the Southeastern Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons Meeting in Williamsburg, Va., in June.

The team is conducting a concerned educational process in Florida and Georgia on the subject of transsexualism. We welcome this assistance to the Foundation effort to educate the medical profession on this problem.

IN BOSTON

"Transsexualism—A Career Gone Sour" was presented by Deborah Feinbloom, director of the Gender Identity Service, Inc., at the June 28th meeting of the American Society for Personnel Administration.

We commend this presentation of the economic problems facing the transsexual during the pre-operative period of treatment and adjustment to the desired gender role prior to sex reassignment operation. We would like to see this message distributed among employers, personnel officers, Vocational Rehab workers, sociologists, etc. Copies may be obtained by writing the Gender Identity Service, Inc., Rm. 403, 419 Boylston Street, Boston, Mass., enclosing \$1 to cover costs.

Mrs. Feinbloom will lecture on "Transsexualism and Transvestism" on Dec. 6, 1972, as part of the 11-week series on Human Sexuality presented Oct. 4-Dec. 20th, by the Community Sex Information Counseling Service, Bowen Elementary School, Waban, Mass.

ON UNITY

The old distressing story of oppressed minorities who have had to fight for their rights of survival, is that they frequently scapegoat other struggling minorities. Though this may be one way to relieve psychological tension, it furthers no one's cause. The need for unity and loving tolerance is crucial in the area of sexual differences. A common front stating each person's right to be unique would do much to educate the prejudiced and/or uninformed segment of the public.

Society in general has stigmatized and hurt homosexuals, transvestites and transsexuals so much that these groups must guard against reflecting these same hurtful attitudes towards each other. The main concern is the civil rights of all people and the pursuit of individual human dignity.

IN THE BRONX

The EEF-sponsored seminar on transsexualism at the Lincoln Hospital Dept. of Psychiatry in June was attended by an overflow staff audience. The panel consisted of Marie Mehl, Ph.D., Bertha Santos, Ph.D., Mrs. Naomi Smith and Zelda Suplee. Mrs. Smith presented one of the patients attending her group therapy sessions at the hospital who is successfully undergoing Vocational Rehabilitation training. A videotape was made of the seminar and will eventually be available after editing.

Quang Lee, M.D., has been designated Director of the Gender Identity unit now in formation at the hospital.

RECENTLY IN PRINT

... "One Person Inside, Someone Else Outside? A Transsexual." "Transsexuals Need More Love, Understanding Than Normal Child." "Legal Measures Have Been Designed to Aid the Transsexual's 'Re-birth.'" This 3-part series appeared in the NEWS TRIBUNE, Beaver Falls, Pa., July 20-22, crediting EEF for the information. We appreciate this newspaper's contribution to our educational campaign.

... "They Decided to Change Their Sex" THE JOURNAL NEWS, Rockland County, N. Y., by John Dalmas, August 6-7th, 1972.

... "Cross-Dressing" by George L. Kirkham, Crim.D., and Edward Sagarin, Ph.D. April 1972 SEXUAL BEHAVIOR.

... "The Difference with Paula Grossman" by Rod Townley, Philadelphia INQUIRER, Today Magazine, Sunday, August 6, 1972.

... "The Baffling World of the Transsexual" St. Petersburg TIMES, Floridian Magazine, September 3.

MEETINGS IN MOSCOW

Sixty individuals from nine countries converged in July at the International Meeting on the Problems of Bioenergetics and Related Areas. This meeting arose from the 1971 visit of Dr. Stanley Krippner with Soviet scientists and his lecture on parapsychology at the Moscow University Institute of Psychology. The U. S. contingent included a group of world-trekking members of the American Association for Humanistic Psychology as well as researchers, practitioners and guests.

The meetings were informal in nature and were not sponsored by an official Soviet agency, but were held in facilities made available by EEF.

In the exchange of information the Soviets included a discussion on a fasting treatment for schizophrenia; a variety of films demonstrating psychokinesis—movement of objects by mental propulsion—yoga training (rapidly increasing in popularity in the USSR), dowsing, hypnosis to stimulate creative skills. A film on plant sensitivity depicted electronic equipment which individually monitored the response of plants to the need of light and water. A device would trigger the watering of the plant or the opening of a part of the greenhouse roof to admit sunlight in response to the plants' signals. The consciousness of plants was beautifully demonstrated in a sensitively done color film. Closeups of flowers, leaves and plants indicated their awareness of time, orientation and response to stimuli. Also shown were films on Kirlian photography and acupuncture. One of the most impressive of the Soviet films showed a thoroughly blindfolded person driving a car through traffic somehow guided through the hand of his companion on the driver's arm.

Among the US contributions were reports on mental healing and mind control. The film produced by Dr. Thelma Moss, UCLA, "Psychics, Saints and Scientists" was shown through the courtesy of Psychic Magazine. A presentation was given on Kirlian-type photography and a film on psychic surgery in the Philippines.

The first news report on the Soviet presentation of advances in ESP research appeared in the September 25th and October 1st issue of the NATIONAL ENQUIRER. Other meeting reports will appear in national magazines including PSYCHIC as well as in professional journals.

ON THE AGENDA

Oct. 22—Middlebury College, Vt. EEF seminar on transexualism.

Oct. 31-Nov. 4—Portland, Oregon. Natl. Council on Family Relations meeting. Dr. Marie Mehl will present "Initial Interview with the Sexually Deviant Client."

Jan. 10, 1973—Philadelphia. EEF-sponsored symposium on transexualism.

PSI INTEREST SPREADS

Dr. Stanley Dean, Miami psychiatrist and Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Florida, who arranged the Grand Rounds program on transexualism there in February, 1971, coordinated the program "Science and Psi: Transcultural Trends" at the May convention of the American Psychiatric Association in Dallas.

Chief discussant on the panel was Capt. Edgar Mitchell, NASA astronaut, whose subject was "Awareness and Science."

Capt. Mitchell will also appear on the distinguished program of speakers at the Annual Conference, "Beyond the Senses," of the American Academy of Psychotherapists, Oct. 21-22, 1972, at the New York City Holiday Inn. Conference program chairman is Dr. Renee Nell—Commentator, Dr. Stanley Krippner.

PSI AND MEDICINE

Transcripts of the October 31, 1971, symposium conducted by the newly organized Academy of Parapsychology and Medicine are now available. The interdisciplinary meeting on "The Varieties of Healing Experience" had an overflow audience of nearly 3,000 at De Anza College, and the papers presented by the distinguished panel can be obtained singly or bound. For further information write The Academy of Parapsychology and Medicine, 314A Second Street, Los Altos, Calif. 94022.

IN SYRACUSE

An hour-long television documentary film on transexualism was presented on WSYR-TV during the spring. Produced by Ron Hastings it covered circumstances in the life of Frances Renee including an interview with her in the hospital just before her sex reassignment operation from male to female. Members of the family, friends, clergy and medical profession were interviewed.

WSYR-TV and Mr. Hastings are to be commended for their fine contribution to educating the public. EEF also expresses appreciation for the special audition of the videotape arranged for us.

ON TRANSVESTISM

The scope of the TV Information Service increases. It has enlarged its staff of counselors to 15, covering a wide area in which individuals can seek advice on their life-style problems, as listed in the 12-page August newsletter. The subjects range from sexual, dress, make-up, religious, group organizational, etc., to "Transvestites' Wives' Counselor to assist any wife to understand transvestism," in the "Home and Family Acceptance" counseling group.

For information write to: James Howell, Director, TVIS, P. O. Box 276, Spencer, N. C. 28159.

COLLEGE CLASS PRESENTATIONS

... A seminar on transexualism was given at N.Y.C. New School for Social Research in June in the course, "What Is Man—What Is Woman?" Zelda Suplee presented the subject material assisted by Lynn Raskin, postoperative author of the book, *Diary of a Transexual* (Olympia Press).

... A return visit to the Health Education Department course on Human Sexuality took place in July at Hunter College, New York City. Dr. Michael Carrera's class of Health Education teachers heard an EEF presentation on transexualism.

EEF PAMPHLETS

(single copies free)

Information for the Family of the Transexual

Legal Aspects of Transexualism

Religious Aspects of Transexualism

An Outline of Medical Management of the Transexual (Available only to members of the medical profession)

NOTE: Guidelines for Transexuals is not yet available. Announcement will be made when it is in print.

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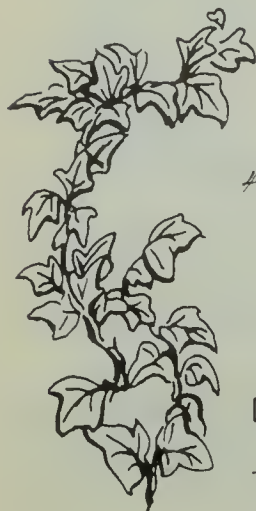
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October, 1972

Dear Friend:

This is to announce the Third International Symposium on Gender Identity to be held September 8-10, 1973, at the Hotel Libertas in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia.

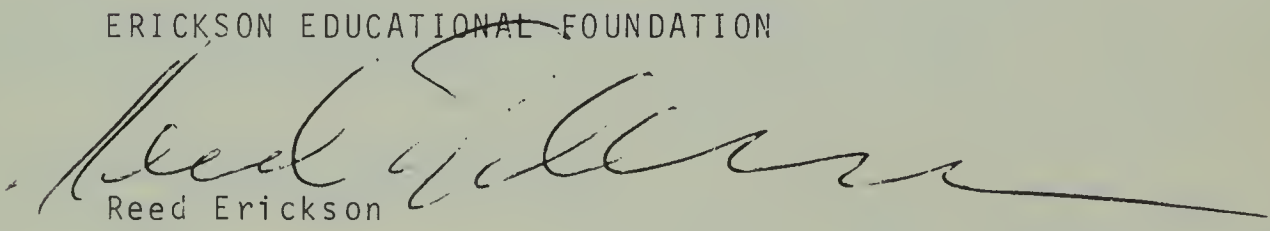
The theme of the Symposium will concern transexualism and related problems of gender orientation. Papers will be presented on all aspects and considerations of sex reassignment, ranging from etiology, psychological and psychiatric attributes to surgical procedures and social and legal problems.

Below is a REgistration Form and Call for Papers in which your direct participation in this Symposium is invited. Early submission of abstracts in English is urged, to be received by March 15, 1973.

Please send in your preliminary registration immediately. Further information regarding program, travel and other arrangements will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

ERICKSON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION


Reed Erickson

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____ Title _____

Full Mailing Address: _____

Profession _____ Affiliation _____

☐ I am interested in attending the Symposium in September, 1973

☐ I would like to present a paper and will send a 100-word typed, double-spaced abstract Air Mail by March 15, 1973.